



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 1996

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Killed	Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Crops	Character of Storm
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ILLINOIS, South

ILZ087>090>094

Gallatin - Pope - Hardin - Alexander - Pulaski - Massac

01 0001CST
06 2200CST

0 0

Flood

Minor to moderate flooding of the Ohio River continued from the end of January into the first week of February. At Paducah, KY, the river dropped from 41.5 feet on the 1st to 39 feet on the 6th. Flood stage is 39 feet. This flooding was enough to submerge parts of Fort Massac State Park at Metropolis, IL, as well as a few roads in bottomland areas.

ILZ075>078-080>094

Jefferson - Wayne - Edwards - Wabash - Perry - Franklin - Hamilton - White - Jackson - Williamson - Saline - Gallatin - Union - Johnson - Pope - Hardin - Alexander - Pulaski - Massac

02 0100CST
05 2300CST

0 0

Extreme Cold

The most severe cold snap of the 1995-96 winter season caused many problems with burst pipes and overworked furnaces. Calls to one heating system specialist were up 30 to 40 percent. Central Illinois Public Service Co. broke its winter electric peak record. Residents of Pinckneyville were asked to conserve natural gas due to dwindling supplies. The shortage was partly the result of gas wells that were freezing up. The overflow valve on the water tower in DeSoto froze up, causing thousands of gallons of water to escape from the top. Many cities dealt with water main breaks as the cold weather put stress on the pipes. Wind chills were occasionally as low as minus 40 degrees. Actual daytime highs on the third were in the single digits, with overnight lows from minus 6 to minus 11. The extreme cold significantly damaged the peach crop, which is vulnerable to severe winter cold snaps.

ILZ084-088-092

Jackson - Union - Alexander

05 0300CST
09 1300CST

0 0

Ice Jam

Extremely cold weather in early February caused ice jams to form along the Mississippi River north of Cairo. The U.S. Coast Guard closed the river from Cairo, IL to St. Louis, MO for a few days. There was 100 percent ice blockage near Thebes, Illinois for several hours. This caused the river to rise 6 feet at Cape Girardeau, but it remained well below flood stage. Scores of barges were trapped by ice, resulting in significant losses to the river industry. Once the ice started moving, several barges broke loose from their moorings and had to be rounded up by the Coast Guard. Numerous navigational aids were displaced or damaged by the ice.

Hardin County
Elizabethtown

25 1400CST
2000CST

0 0

Wild/Forest Fire

Dry, warm, and windy conditions resulted in a rash of brush and grass fires. The largest fire burned about 600 acres in the Shawnee National Forest near Elizabethtown. Most of the fires were less than 100 acres in size.

Williamson County
Marion

27 1325CST

0 0

Hail(0.75)

White County
2 S Enfield

27 1429CST

0 0

80K

Lightning

A barn housing a tractor and combine was destroyed by a lightning-caused fire.

INDIANA, Southwest

INZ081>082-085>088

Gibson - Pike - Posey - Vanderburgh - Warrick - Spencer

02 0100CST
05 2300CST

0 0

Extreme Cold

The most severe cold snap of the 1995-96 winter season caused water pipes to burst and heating systems to malfunction. The high temperature at Evansville only reached 6 degrees on the 3rd, followed by a low of minus 7 on the 4th.



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INDIANA, Southwest

Vanderburgh County

.5 S (Evv) Dress Arpt Ev 27 1430CST 0 0 Hail(0.75)

Warrick County

Chandler 27 1440CST 0 0 Hail(1.00)
One inch hail was reported in the Boonville and Chandler areas.

Spencer County

Gentryville 27 1512CST 0 0 Thunderstorm Wind (50)
Trees were blown down.

Warrick County

Newburgh 27 1535CST 0 0 Hail(0.75)

KENTUCKY, Southwest

KYZ004>005-007-010-014>015-018 Ballard - Mcracken - Livingston - Crittenden - Union - Webster - Henderson

01 0001CST 0 0 Flood
06 2200CST

Minor to moderate flooding of the Ohio River continued from the end of January into the first week of February. At Paducah, the river dropped from 41.5 feet on the 1st to 39 feet on the 6th. Flood stage is 39 feet. This flooding was enough to submerge parts of Paducah's riverfront park.

KYZ001>022

Fulton - Hickman - Carlisle - Ballard - Mcracken - Graves - Livingston - Marshall - Calloway - Crittenden - Lyon - Trigg - Caldwell - Union - Webster - Hopkins - Christian - Henderson - Daviess - Mclean - Muhlenberg - Todd

02 0100CST 0 0 Extreme Cold
05 2300CST

This was the worst cold snap of the 1995-96 winter season. The high temperature at Paducah on the 3rd was 7 degrees, making this one of the coldest February days on record. The low at Paducah was 3 below zero on both the 3rd and 4th. The cold weather caused water lines to freeze up in many homes, and several water main breaks occurred in Paducah. Some heating systems were overtaxed by the cold weather and broke down. Plumbers were kept busy repairing burst water pipes. Some homes received water damage as a result of burst pipes. A school was closed for a day when a burst water pipe flooded the basement with 3 feet of water, breaking the heating system. The TVA set an all-time record for power demand on the 5th. Several house fires were started by people trying to thaw pipes. At least four buildings in Marshall and McCracken Counties were heavily damaged or destroyed by fires related to the cold weather.

McCracken County

Lone Oak 25 1300CST 0 0 Wild/Forest Fire
1700CST

Dry, warm, and windy conditions resulted in a rash of brush and grass fires. A rapidly moving grass fire in Lone Oak, near Paducah, changed direction and swept across a fire truck. Two firefighters received minor facial burns and smoke inhalation. The truck was heavily damaged. Most of the fires were 20 acres or less, but the largest fire near Symsonia burned about 100 acres. Fire departments throughout western Kentucky were kept busy by the fires, many of which were started by persons burning debris in their yards. Some of the fires spread to outbuildings, barns, or vehicles. Very few if any homes were involved in the fires.

Fulton County

Fulton 27 1545CST 0 0 4K Tstm Wind/Hail

A small shed type building was destroyed. A roof was damaged. One inch hail accompanied the wind. The wind damage area was only about a city block.



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KENTUCKY, Southwest

Trigg County

Rockcastle	27	1555CST			0	0			Hail(1.75)
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Quarter size hail occurred on east side of Cadiz.

Christian County

Oak Grove	27	1723CST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
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MISSOURI, Southeast

MOZ076-086>087-100-107>112-114 Perry - Bollinger - Cape Girardeau - Wayne - Carter - Ripley - Butler - Stoddard - Scott - Mississippi - New Madrid

02	0200CST			0	0				Extreme Cold
05	2200CST								

The worst cold outbreak of the 1995-96 winter season overburdened some heating systems. High temperatures barely reached 10 degrees during the worst part of the cold snap, and lows fell to around 5 below zero. A local utility company recorded an unofficial all-time winter peak demand for electricity. Dead car batteries kept auto service people busy, and plumbers were kept busy by burst water pipes. Wind chills fell to as low as 49 below zero at Cape Girardeau early Saturday morning. A few major water main breaks occurred as a result of the extreme cold.

MOZ076-087-111

Perry - Cape Girardeau - Scott

05	0300CST			0	0				Ice Jam
09	1300CST								

Extremely cold weather in early February caused ice jams to form along the Mississippi River north of Cairo. The U.S. Coast Guard closed the river from Cairo, IL to St. Louis, MO for a few days. There was 100 percent ice blockage near Commerce, Missouri for several hours. This caused the river to rise 6 feet at Cape Girardeau, but it remained well below the flood stage of 32 feet. Scores of barges were trapped by ice, resulting in significant losses to the river industry. Once the ice started moving, several barges broke loose from their moorings and had to be rounded up by the Coast Guard. Numerous navigational aids were displaced or damaged by the ice.